

# Oregon Business Development Commission

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June 2, 2017

Salem

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## **Attendance**

**Members Present:** Kanth Gopalpur, Commission Chair; Paula Hayes; Keith Leavitt; Win McCormack; Gregg Semler (participated by telephone); and Senator Betsy Johnson

**Members Absent:** Fred Warner, Jessica Gomez, and Representative Janelle Bynum

**Staff Present:** Chris Harder, Director; Nick Batz, Policy & Government Affairs Manager; Nathan Buehler, Marketing Manager; Maria Ellis, Assistant Director, Equity, Strategy & Communications; Michael Meyers, Economist; Ramona Rodamaker, Assistant Directors, Operations & Finance; Gina Wiedrick, Executive Assistant; and Jenny Wilfong, Chief Financial Officer

**Guests:** Susan Kerosky, The Coraggio Group

Chair Gopalpur called the meeting to order at approximately 11:06 a.m.

## **Welcome/Introductions**

Chair Gopalpur welcomed attendees to the meeting of the Business Oregon Commission and gave an overview of the meeting agenda.

## **Review of Proposed Meeting Minutes**

**Action:** Chair Gopalpur called for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 27, 2017, meeting; Commissioner Leavitt moved and Commissioner Hayes seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Minutes approved.

## **Public Comment**

No public comment was presented.

## **National Trends**

Director Harder gave a summary of the Strategic Plan Phase 1 work, what work is being done during Phase 2, and stated that staff is targeting end of September 2017 for a final plan to be presented to the commission. He then gave an overview of the Economic Insights Report focusing on national trends.

## **Oregon Economic Trend Analysis**

Mr. Meyers gave an overview of the *Economic Insights Report* focusing on Oregon data.

## **Strategic Planning Feedback Exercise**

Ms. Kerosky led the commission on an exercise focusing on the five draft imperatives; all input was collected and will be used in the work going into Business Oregon's Strategic Plan:

### **Imperative #1: Foster industry innovation and strong business growth**

- What is the most targeted action Business Oregon can take to spur industry growth?
- How would we measure success for this imperative?

### **Imperative #2: Create quality employment opportunities for underserved people**

- How would you define quality employment?
- Should Business Oregon focus on quality employment among certain communities (geography, socio-econ, ethnicity, etc.)? If so, where should we focus our efforts?
- How would we measure success for this imperative?

## **Break**

At approximately 12:57 p.m. Chair Gopalpur called for a break. At approximately 1:03 p.m. Chair Gopalpur reconvened the commission meeting.

### **Imperative #3: Invest in rural communities to enable economic prosperity**

- Are all rural communities worth investing in equally?
- If we have limited resources, what characteristics would Business Oregon look for when determining where to invest?
- What types of investments, that Business Oregon can provide, are most needed in these communities?
- How would we measure success for this imperative?

### **Imperative #4: Lead statewide economic initiatives**

- How would you characterize the type of statewide economic initiatives Business Oregon should participate in?
- How would we measure success for this imperative?

### **Imperative #5: Operate a transparent, innovative and inclusive agency**

- Given your experience leading an organization, what is one proposed idea to better achieve this imperative?
- How would we measure success for this imperative?

*Is there something Business Oregon should be doing that is not captured as part of these imperatives?*

Director Harder stated that if the commission has any additional thoughts regarding the Strategic Plan, they can send him an email or call him to discuss further.

**Director's Report**

Director Harder gave updates on recent success stories: a Federal Environmental Protection Agency award for brownfields work; progress made with the Oregon Manufacturing Innovation Center; the Small Business Expansion Program, a fairly new financing tool; recruitment projects; seismic and Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs awards; new hires; and other general projects and activities happening at Business Oregon.

Mr. Batz and Senator Johnson gave a Legislative and budget update: the state of Oregon is still facing a \$1.4 billion budget gap, additional work sessions for Business Oregon staff will be scheduled mid-June, the biggest issues this session are the new revenue package and the transportation package, and the various House Bills that have an impact to Business Oregon and the programs it provides.

**Closing Remarks and Adjourn**

The next meeting will be held on September 29, 2017, time and place yet to be determined.

Chair Gopalpur adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:44 p.m.

**Approved by:**

Signature on file  
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Kanth Gopalpur, Chair  
Oregon Business Development Commission

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Signature on file  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Harder, Director  
Business Oregon

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Date